

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus comprising a removable cartridge which includes:

5 an information storage medium; and

a housing having said information storage medium movably supported therein, and configured so that, if electrostatic charge is present on an exterior surface of said housing, said information storage medium will be
10 substantially free of induced charge.

2. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said information storage medium is a disk which is rotatably supported within said housing.

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3. An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said housing has, on one side of said disk, first and second portions which each extend approximately parallel to said disk, which are each spaced from said disk in a direction
20 normal to said disk, and which have a space therebetween, said first portion being made of a material which is one of electrically conductive and electrically dissipative.

4. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said
25 first and second portions of said housing each have an opening therethrough, said openings being aligned with each other and with an axis of rotation of said disk.

5. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said
30 first portion is electrically conductive, and said second portion is disposed between said first portion and said disk.

6. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said second portion is made from one of an electrically conductive and an electrically dissipative material.

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7. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said housing has a section which includes said second portion, which substantially completely surrounds said disk except for said opening through said second portion, and which is made from a material that is one of electrically conductive and electrically dissipative.

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8. An apparatus according to Claim 7, including a motor fixedly mounted in said opening through said first portion, said motor effecting said rotatable support of said disk within said housing.

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9. An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein an inner edge of said opening through said second portion is spaced radially outwardly from said motor.

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10. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said first portion is electrically conductive, and is disposed between said second portion and said disk.

11. An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said housing has, on a side of said disk opposite from said first and second portions, third and fourth portions which each extend approximately parallel to said disk, which are each spaced from said disk in a direction normal to said disk, and which have a space therebetween, said third portion being made of a material which is electrically conductive.

12. An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said housing has a fifth portion which electrically couples said first and third portions.

13. An apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said housing has a section which includes said second and fourth portions, which substantially completely surrounds said disk and said first and third portions except for said opening through said second portion, and which is made from a material that is electrically insulative.

14. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said first portion is disposed between said second portion and said disk, and is made of a material which is one of electrically conductive and electrically dissipative.

15. An apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said second portion is made from a material which is electrically insulative.

16. An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein
said housing has a third portion which, together with
said first portion, defines a section of said housing
which substantially completely surrounds said disk except
5 for said opening through said first portion, said third
portion being made from a material which is one of
electrically dissipative and electrically conductive.

17. An apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein
10 said second and third portions each engage said first
portion but are free of engagement with each other.

18. An apparatus according to Claim 4, including a
motor fixedly mounted in said opening through one of said
15 first and second portions, said motor effecting said
rotatable support of said disk within said housing.

19. A method of making a removable cartridge which includes a housing having an information storage medium movable supported therein, comprising:

5 configuring said housing so that, if electrostatic charge is present on an exterior surface of said housing, said information storage medium will be substantially free of induced charge.

10 20. A method according to Claim 19, including configuring said information storage medium to be a disk; and rotatably supporting said disk within said housing.

15 21. A method according to Claim 20, wherein said configuring of said housing includes:

 configuring said housing to have, on one side of said disk, first and second portions which each extend approximately parallel to said disk, which are each spaced from said disk in a direction normal to said disk, and which have a space therebetween; and

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 selecting one of an electrically conductive material and an electrically dissipative material to serve as said first portion.

25 22. A method according to Claim 21, wherein said configuring of said housing includes forming a respective opening through each of said first and second portions in a manner so that said openings are aligned with each other and with an axis of rotation of said disk.

23. A method according to Claim 22, including:
positioning said second portion between said first
portion and said disk; and
5 selecting an electrically conductive material to
serve as said first portion.

24. A method according to Claim 22, including:
positioning said first portion between said second
10 portion and said disk; and
selecting one of electrically conductive material
and an electrically dissipative material to serve as said
first portion.